



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

FEBRUARY 4.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

One hundred and nine persons present.

*Fossil Remains of a Caribou.*—Prof. LEIDY directed attention to several fossil specimens which he had received for determination from Prof. F. M. Witter, of Muscatine, Iowa. They were found together, with others apparently of the same animal, in the Loess on which the city of Muscatine is built.

Two of the fossils consist of fragments of the left side of the upper and lower jaws, retaining most of the molar teeth in good condition. Another specimen is an uncharacteristic bone fragment. Other bones were too much decomposed for preservation.

The specimens with teeth indicate a species of deer, of an individual past maturity, as the crowns of the teeth are half worn away, exhibiting broad, comparatively flat surfaces. The character of the fossils appeared unfamiliar, and at first were suspected to have pertained to an extinct and undescribed species. The proportionately large size of the premolars, in comparison with those of ordinary forms of deer, appeared as a distinctive feature.

Observing that the fossils were larger than the corresponding parts of the barren ground caribou, *Rangifer groenlandicus*, it was suspected that they may have pertained to the woodland caribou, *Rangifer caribou*. In this view, not having the latter for comparison, the specimen of the upper jaw with the teeth was sent to Dr. Elliott Coues, of Washington, with the request that he should compare it with specimens of the woodland caribou in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. Coues reports that the fossil was carefully compared with numerous specimens of caribou, and he adds: "I think you may safely announce *Rangifer caribou* from the Loess of Iowa." He further remarks, that "the specimen is more worn as to the teeth than any I find to compare with it, being ground away so that almost the broadest looking set of surfaces presents. Making due allowance for this, I find nothing incompatible with the specific characters of the living woodland caribou. The lengths of the whole molar series, as well as of the premolars and molars, are substantially identical; bend of the series and set of the teeth also the same."

Comparative measurements of the upper molar series of the fossil caribou, with the corresponding series of a woodland caribou from Fort Anderson, given by Dr. Coues, are as follows:—

Rangifer caribou.				Fossil.	Recent.
Length of space occupied by the upper six molars,				98.5 mm.	98.5 mm.
" " " " " three true molars,				53 "	53 "
" " " " " three premolars,				50 "	46.5 "

The fossil remains of the deer, at first supposed to belong to an extinct species, for which the name of *Cervus muscatinensis* was suggested, were discovered in grading a street in the city of Muscatine. From the Loess of the same locality Prof. Witter has collected the following fossil shells: *Helix striatella*, *H. fulva*, *H. pulchella*, *H. lineata*, *Pupa muscorum*, *P. blandi*, *P. simplex*, *Succinea obliqua*, *S. avara*, *Limnea humilis*? and *Helicina occulta*.

---

FEBRUARY 11.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-one persons present.

*Natives of Botel Tobago.*—The President read the following extract from a letter by Dr. CHARLES A. SIEGFRIED, U. S. N., dated December 20, 1878: "We visited an island called Botel Tobago, while surveying a rock, 80 miles east of South Cape of Formosa. We found a race of aborigines, probably from Malay stock. They knew nothing of money, rum, or tobacco. They gave us goats and pigs for tin pots and brass buttons, and would hang around us all day in their canoes, waiting for a chance to dive for something thrown overboard. They wore clouts only; ate taro and yams mainly, though they have pigs, goats, chickens, and fish, and cocoanuts also. Snakes abound, of the boa variety I judge. Their thatch houses are low, with much overhang of the roof, surrounded by stone walls, strongly made of laid stone to protect them from monsoons. Their paddy fields contain immense quantities of taro, *Colocasia aroidea* my botany says. They are peaceful and timid, do not mark the body or deform the face or teeth, and seem happy enough in their condition. I found them fairly healthy. They had axes, spears, and knives, but all of common iron, the axe being made by imbedding the handle instead of the handle piercing the iron, as with us. Their canoes are beautiful, made without nails, and are ornamented usually with geometrical lines. The hair is worn naturally, the men partly clipping theirs. I saw no valuable metal. They wore the beards of goats, with small shells, as neck ornaments."

*Cutting or Parasol Ant, Atta fervens*, Say.—The Rev. H. C. McCook stated that he had in course of preparation a detailed account of the architecture and habits of the Cutting Ant of Texas. The observations, of which he proceeded to give an abstract, were made during an encampment for purposes of study, south of Austin, Texas.

1. *Exterior Architecture.*—Two forms were noted. The first, seen at a point distinguished as Camp Wright, was that of a